

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Please replace the pending claims with the following listing of claims:

1-27. (Canceled)

28. (original) A method for extracting blood from an animal fetus, the method comprising:

securing a placenta of an animal against a substantially planar first face, the first face being disposed at an angle in a range between about 45° to about 110° relative to the horizontal, with a fetus of the animal positioned below the placenta and attached to the placenta by an umbilical cord;

massaging the placenta against the first face so that at least a portion of the blood within the placenta flows out of the placenta through the umbilical cord and into the animal fetus;

thereafter suspending the animal fetus; and

draining at least a portion of the blood from the suspended animal fetus into a container.

29. (original) A method as recited in claim 28, wherein the act of securing the placenta comprises pushing the placenta onto a plurality of spaced apart spikes projecting from the first face such that the spikes puncture the placenta.

30. (original) A method as recited in claim 28, wherein the act of securing the placenta comprises spreading the placenta out so that the placenta rests substantially flat against the first face.

31. (original) A method as recited in claim 28, further comprising resting the animal fetus on a first table top vertically disposed below the first face when the placenta is secured to the first face.

32. (original) A method as recited in claim 28, further comprising severing the umbilical cord between the placenta and the animal fetus prior to suspending the animal fetus.

33. (original) A method as recited in claim 28, wherein the act of suspending the animal fetus comprises suspending the animal fetus so that the animal fetus biases or is disposed directly adjacent to a second face, the second face being disposed at an angle in a range between about 45° to about 110° relative to the horizontal.

34. (original) A method as recited in claim 33, wherein the act of draining the blood comprises massaging the animal fetus against the second face so as to move the blood toward the heart of the animal.

35. (original) A method as recited in claim 33, wherein the second face is integrally formed with or is connected to the first face.

36. (original) A method as recited in claim 34, wherein the act of draining the blood comprises inserting a needle into the heart of the animal fetus, the blood draining out of the heart through the needle and into the container.

37. (original) A method as recited in claim 28, wherein the act of suspending comprises:

securing a first hook to a nose of the animal fetus; and
securing a second hook in the anus of the animal fetus, the first and second hook each being secured to the second panel.

38. (withdrawn) A method for extracting blood from a placenta of an animal, the method comprising:

passing a plurality of spaced apart spikes projecting from an at least substantially planar face through a placenta of an animal so that the placenta is securely disposed against the face; and

massaging the placenta against the face so that at least a portion of the blood within the placenta flows out of the placenta through an umbilical cord.

39. (withdrawn) A method as recited in claim 38, wherein the blood passes through the umbilical cord associated with the placenta and into an animal fetus which has been removed from the placenta without severing the umbilical cord.

41. (withdrawn) A method as recited in claim 38, at least a portion of the face is disposed at an angle in a range between about 45° to about 110° relative to the horizontal;